10. Enabling provisions provided in the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, through amendment in 2006, for preparing reserve wise Tiger Conservation Foundation, for involving local stakeholder communities.

11. Enabling provisions provided in the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, through amendment in 2006, for creating State level Steering Committees by State under the Chief Minister for ensuring coordination, monitoring, protection and conservation to tiger, co-predators and prey animals.

Statement-III

Details of Control Assistance under Project Tiger

VIIIth Plan Period

(*Rs. in lakhs*)

Sl. No.	Name of Tiger Reserve	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97
1.	Sunderban	30.615	36.5860	36.930	45.705	66.730

IXth Plan Period

(*Rs. in lakhs*)

Sl. No.	Name of Tiger Reserve	1997-78	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-01	2001-02
1.	Sunderban	38.95	121.09	80.77	45.00	90.97

Xth Plan Period

(*Rs. in lakhs*)

Sl. No.	Name of Tiger Reserve	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07
1.	Sunderban	138.33	172.72	274.74	129.6863	121.30

Forest infrastructure for conservation of wildlife

2201. SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that even as the poaching of tigers, elephants, rhinos and other endangered species is on the rise, more than 17,000 posts of forest personnel are lying vacant in different parts of the country;

(b) whether the Forest Ministers' conference at Coimbatore emphasized the strengthening of the forest infrastructure for conservation of wildlife;

(c) if so, the reasons for keeping so many posts vacant and giving the poachers free run in the reserved forests; and

(d) the time-frame when these posts would be filled and area, region, state-wise vacancy position in the forest department?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) State/UT Governments have reported vacancies of frontline staff in Forest and Wildlife Departments.

(b) Yes sir.

(c) and (d) Recruitment of frontline forest personnel is vested with the State/UT Government. Ban on recruitments, lack of financial resources etc. are the reasons cited by the State/UT Governments for not filling up the vacant posts. However, the State/UT Governments have been requested by this Ministry to fill up the vacant posts of frontline staff in Forest and Wildlife Departments.

Sabarmati River Project Phase-II

2202. SHRI JAYANTILAL BAROT:
SHRI KESHUBHAI S. PATEL:
SHRI KANJIBHAI PATEL:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the cleaning up project phase-II for Sabarmati river has been approved by Government of India;

(b) if so, the amount of fund allocated to the project for the State of Gujarat.

(c) whether it is also a fact that the cleaning up project phase-II for Sabarmati river has been appraised and approved by Government; and

(d) if so, the present status of the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (d) The proposal received from the State Government of Gujarat for cleaning of Sabarmati River Phase-II at Ahmedabad could not be considered due to budgetary constraints. Accordingly, the State Government was advised to explore the alternative sources of funding including external assistance for the said works.

Implementation of Forest Right Act

2203. SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has decided to give land rights to tribal and forest dwellers which will be applicable from January 1, 2008;

(b) if so, whether the Forest Right Act rules, which were to be notified in October were held back;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether all State Governments have considered and agreed to implement the Act seriously;

(e) if so, how many States have so far done it; and

(f) by when all States will be implementing this Act?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) to (c) The Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest